

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 125904
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 L-03 INR-10 SS-15 PM-05
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DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN/CFILIPOVITCH
APPROVED BY S/AB:AMB. POPPER
ARA/PAN - MR. WYROUGH
-----006941 172359Z /65
P 172254Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PN, PQ

SUBJECT: COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN CANAL ZONE

1. RECEIVED BY POUCH YESTERDAY COPY OF MEMORANDUM "JOINT PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE LABOR RELATIONS POLICY."

2. DEPARTMENT IS REVIEWING DRAFT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT FACT THAT ARTICLE X, PARA 9A OF THE CANAL TREATY RECOGNIZES RIGHT OF EMPLOYEES TO NEGOTIATE COLLECTIVE CONTRACTS. WE HAVE SOME SUBSTANTIVE AND PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS ON WHICH WE WILL ADVISE YOU LATER.

3. WE WOULD LIKE TO FLAG ONE POINT IMMEDIATELY. DOCUMENT IS ENTITLED AND REFERS THROUGHOUT TO "PANAMA CANAL COM-
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MISSION." WE WONDER HOW THIS IS JUSTIFIED, SINCE COM-
MISSION HAS NOT YET BEEN ESTABLISHED UNDER US LAW; THE
TREATY IS NOT YET IN FORCE; AND AS FAR AS WE KNOW, GOP
REPRESENTATIVES, WHO WILL SPEAK FOR PANAMA ON COMMISSION,
HAVE NOT BEEN CONSULTED.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE WILL ATTEND

MAY 18 MEETING AT WHICH UNIONS AND MANAGEMENT WILL DISCUSS
DRAFT. KEEP US INFORMED ON DEVELOPMENTS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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